

Sept 26

Dear Mom & Dad (and Mary & Mike),

Life must seem a lot different now with a permanent addition to the family. It's still hard to think of Mary as a mother but apparently it is possible. Luckily the baby is a girl as a boy could hardly stand the pressures of two mothers. I'm sure it is very nice, however, to trade off the work involved with a tiny baby. We're anxious to see Diane and probably will within a year.

I'm sending a clipping we ran across concerning the museum we visited in Taiwan. Maybe you could send it to Vickie's parents after reading it. The museum was quite a highlight in our trip. We bought some rattan furniture in Hong Kong and had it shipped back. It arrived last week and today we drove up to the dock

---

in Baltimore and picked it up. There is a small table with folding legs, two folding chairs, and a set of three stools. They are all very sturdy and well-constructed. Vickie is having two museum prints framed so our house is taking on an oriental decor.

I ride my bike to work most days and we really enjoy living so close to work while being quite isolated. It is quite peaceful here and we play tennis a lot. Sunday we drove to the mountains and went on a short (3 1/2 miles) but steep hike. It was clear and cool. We have had no rain for quite a long time.

Maybe this Tue we will finally get over to play duplicate bridge. Vickie has studied a lot and really knows the principles well.

---

Vickie will be trying to get a typing job on the base. After a few months she will be earning the same salary as a teacher, also, opportunities come up from time to time for better jobs that she can apply for. Our lab has been merged with the Naval Ordinance lab in Md and as a result hiring and promotions have really slowed down. That is why I'm looking around for jobs in Washington. I applied for a job in the Naval Intelligence Command but the chances are slim that I'll be selected. In any case, I'm not unhappy here.

~~##~~ In two weeks we're planning on a long drive, stopping at our friends near Chicago, continuing on around the Great Lakes to Toronto and then back home. We enjoy Canada a lot and the leaves should be very bright — Jim & Vickie

---